



# STUDY GUIDE

## THE PURSUIT OF PURPOSE 04.23.2017

### [set up]

Take a few minutes to list all the ways people pursue purpose, meaning, and fulfillment (this exercise is a good time for use of large post it notes for a LifeGroup). Now circle three of the ways in which you personally have tried to find fulfillment. How did those pursuits leave you unfulfilled?

### [digging deeper]

As we kick off this “Pursuit of Purpose” series in the book of Ecclesiastes, take time to watch this 8-minute illustrative and creative video introduction of the book.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IrsQ1tc-2wk>

What is something that you learned about this book that you didn’t know before? What was one important insight that stood out to you?

### Read Ecclesiastes chapters 1 and 2.

If you were to summarize these two chapters in a brief phrase, what would it be?

In these chapters, the teacher testifies to a “been there, done that” life experience. Where did he look for meaning, purpose, and fulfillment? What is his conclusion?

Why is it that even when one hears that, something inside them thinks, “Yeah, but if that was me, I would have been fulfilled”?

If the author of Ecclesiastes is indeed Solomon, what can we learn about Solomon from these verses:

Ecclesiastes 1 & 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2 Chronincles 1:8-12 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1 Kings 4:29 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1 Kings 4:32 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1 Kings 10:14-27 \_\_\_\_\_

How do those insights strengthen the lessons from Ecclesiastes?

It's understandable why people who do not know Christ get stuck in the futile cycle of trying to be fulfilled with what the world has to offer, but why do Christians also drift back into trying to find fulfillment in worldly pursuits rather than only in Christ?

How do these verses each echo and support the findings of what is being taught in Ecclesiastes?

Matt. 6:27-33 \_\_\_\_\_

James 4:13-16 \_\_\_\_\_

Phil. 4:11-13 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Tim. 4:4-5 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Tim. 6:8 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Cor. 15:58 \_\_\_\_\_

Read 1 Cor 10:31. How does God help bring meaning into the monotony of life? What steps can we take to seek God for fulfillment rather than the experiences of this life?

How will this study help as a:  
Beloved Child of God?

A missionary?

A LifeHouse?

## **[living it out]**

Write down one pursuit you are chasing after for fulfillment that you need to stop.

Write down one experience you go through in life in which you need to find enjoyment from the Lord.

Who comes to mind that you need to invite to this series? Pray for them by name tonight and all the way up to when you invite them. Also pray for God to help you with what you answered for the first two questions.